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King, Daniel D. Tompkins, John A. Dix, Benjamin F. Butler, Daniel S. Dickinson, Millard Fillmore, Hamilton Fish, David D. Field, Harry J. Raymond, Edward D. Morgan, George W. Curtis and Ferdinand Wood. The enumeration of the names of these men, prominent not only in the state, but also in the nation, suggests the intimate connection between the politics of the Empire State and the country. Indeed, one of the decided merits of this history, and a characteristic that distinguishes it from the former type of state histories, is due to the fact that the author realizes this, and reveals the relation between national and state politics. This is particularly true of the period covered by the second volume, which discusses such far-reaching political phenomena as the break up of the Whig party, the reorganization of the Democracy and the rise of the Republican party. So closely, indeed, is the development of national politics followed as we approach the Civil War that the last third of the second volume is devoted to the critical years 1859-1861. The author's keen interest in this period renders him open to criticism for failure to preserve a due regard for the apportionment of space. In contrast with this full discussion of the influence of national politics is the slight attention paid to the politics of New York City, especially the failure to adequately present an account of the rise and development of Tammany as a political force.

The chief shortcomings of this work are due to Mr. Alexander's conception of history and to his narrow interpretation of what comprises political history. In consequence, he fails to present the importance and significance of movements which emanate from the people. Accordingly, little space is given to the anti-rent uprising, the Equal Rights or the Anti-Masonic party's activities. Fortunately the close connection of the Erie canal problems with the political fortunes of some of the leaders necessitated some attention to this important enterprise, but in general little consideration is paid to the influence of industrial and economic forces upon political parties.

The author's style is clear and vigorous. His narrative is interesting and reveals his firm grasp upon the subject matter, especially as it approaches the later period. Although the work adds little to the actual knowledge of the specialist, it is a distinct advance over the old style of state histories, and will serve the general reader as a reliable and interesting guide through the almost bewildering maze of the politics of New York State. We shall await with interest the completion of another volume which, it is announced, will continue the history to 1896.

HERMAN V. AMES.

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Clark, Victor S *The Labour Movement in Australasia*. Pp. xi, 327. Price, \$1.50. New York: Henry Holt & Co., 1906.

A very valuable addition has been made to the literature on Australasian labor conditions. Our actual knowledge of the trend of affairs in that far off social laboratory is somewhat meager and is colored by the romantic

accounts sometimes detailed. Hence painstaking studies of the problems undertaken there are necessary to correct our misguided impressions. The author's work is an undoubted success, and is especially noteworthy in a number of important respects: he has thoroughly analyzed the development of Australasia, has interpreted the rationale of the labor movement, and has given us a picture of the contending forces which have evolved the present condition there.

The first two chapters of the book deal with a description of the country, its people and their institutions, thus giving us the proper physiographic and historical background necessary to a just comprehension of the real meaning and nature of the social development that has been occasioned. The author continues by describing the political movement and its intimate connections with the hope of the laboring man for industrial betterment. He shows how and why labor parties were formed to hasten the progress of both political and social evolution, and contends that the movement needs an interpretation on practical, not theoretical, grounds. In addition, the program of the labor men is reviewed, and their achievements and the ideals of their leaders set forth.

The subject of immigration and the policy of exclusion are discussed and the series of industrial regulations are graphically described, emphasis being placed upon the systems of compulsory arbitration and minimum wage boards. The nature of these is reviewed and the importance and character of their work detailed. A chapter is devoted to an estimate of the effects of legislative interference with industry. Among other results an increase in the cost of living is indicated, but the class on whom the incidence of such a tax falls most heavily is the rural population, which is naturally evidencing some distrust of labor's comprehensive program. The author claims that neither extensive, positive nor negative results have been achieved by the regulations so far adopted, the total social effect being "to increase the control of labor over the conditions of production." The experience is, however, too limited as yet, and conditions too unstable, to permit the deduction of unalterable conclusions in regard to the general necessary effects of regulation.

The discussion of the importance of government in industry is an illuminating one, disclosing both the importance and magnitude of its operations, besides containing an estimate of the results achieved. Both government and private operation of public utilities have been successful and have been conducted harmoniously side by side. Government ownership has not been a dead weight, nor has it been a particular advantage. The question is, on the contrary, one of minor importance. In summarizing his work the author indicates some of the difficulties still to be encountered, and suggests points of resemblance between the nature of Australasian development and that obtaining in Europe and America.

The book is moderate in tone and is the work of an observer anxious to give correct impressions, hence students of labor and social questions

will find it a very useful volume, enabling them to understand the causes and nature of the social evolution of Australasia.

GEORGE B. MANGOLD.

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Giddings, Franklin H. *Readings in Descriptive and Historical Sociology.* Pp. xxiv, 553. New York: The Macmillan Company, 1906.

The sociologists of the country have learned to look for valuable contributions to sociological thought in each new work of Professor Giddings; and this book will not disappoint them. It is much more than its title indicates, for it contains, besides a careful selection of readings, an outline of sociological theory which, in many particulars, is new and interesting.

The selections have been chosen with a view "to offer to the beginner in sociological studies significant examples of the great facts of social evolution and of their interpretation." They are not meant to be used as a substitute for inductive research, but rather as examples of similar material which the student may gather for himself from historical, statistical and other sources. The selections are generally well chosen and often are exceedingly happy illustrations of the theoretical point involved. If their purpose is kept in mind, there can be no doubt that these selections can be made valuable aids in the instruction of students in sociology, especially where library facilities are not what they should be.

But it is the outline of sociological theory which accompanies these selections that makes the book valuable and interesting to the sociologist. This is more complete in scope than anything which the author has hitherto published, and bears pleasing testimony to the growth of Professor Giddings' sociological thought. The most striking thing about this outline of theory is that it subordinates "consciousness of kind" as a principle of sociological interpretation to the general psychological fact of stimulation and response. In like response to the same given stimulus we have, as Professor Giddings points out (p. 6), the beginning of all concerted activity, and in unlike response the beginning of individuation and competition. All social phenomena must be interpreted, therefore, in terms of stimulus and response. "Impression, imitation and conformity are specific modes, but not by any means the primary or simplest modes of stimulation and response" (p. 7); and the implication is, though Professor Giddings does not make the assertion, that consciousness of kind, or sympathy, is also only another phase or aspect of stimulation and response. Inter-stimulation, or psychical interaction, Professor Giddings implies, is the fundamental social fact, and sociology must be based squarely upon psychology.

Inconsistent with this psychological point of view is Professor Giddings' attempt to state the social process in purely physical terms, in terms of the redistribution of matter and energy (pp. 98-102). If not inconsistent with a psychological interpretation, this method is at least confusing to the young student for whom the book is designed. Another criticism, of similar import, is that Professor Giddings strongly implies (p. 125) that stimulus and response